

Amendments to the specification

Please amend the following paragraph, which was added in the amendment of 2 June 2006, on page 1, line 26, after the first paragraph of priority claims and before "FIELD OF THE INVENTION".

The claimed invention, in the field of functional genomics and the characterization of plant genes for the improvement of plants, was made by or on behalf of Mendel Biotechnology, Inc. and Monsanto ~~Corporation~~ Company as a result of activities undertaken within the scope of a joint research agreement, said agreement having been in effect on or before the date the claimed invention was made.